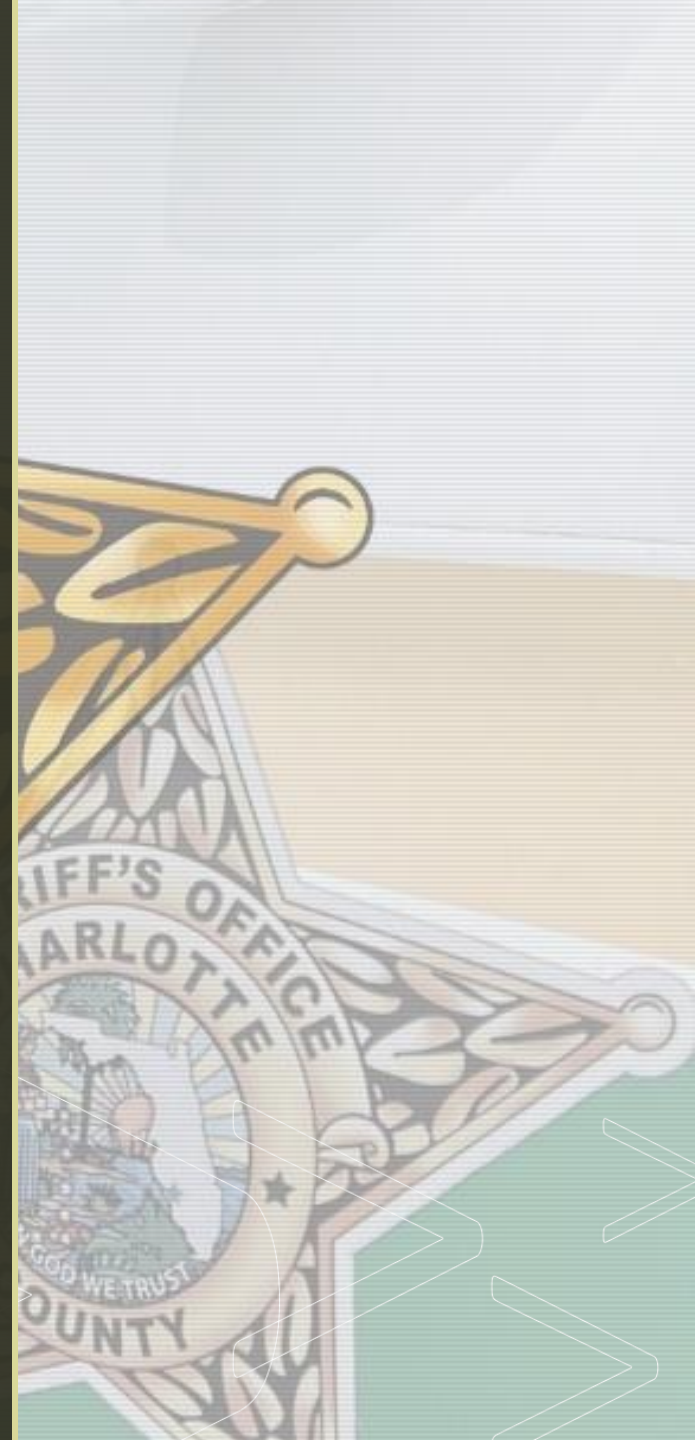


Electric Bicycles and Micromobility Devices

By the Chalotte County Sheriff's Office for the Joint CAC/TAC/BPAC Meeting.



What are E-Bikes?

- Florida electric bike laws define an E-Bike as a bicycle or tricycle equipped with fully operable pedals, a seat or saddle for the use of the rider, and an electric motor of less than 750 watts.



What are E-Bikes? NEW

- * A local government may adopt an ordinance providing one or more minimum age requirements to operate an electric bicycle and may adopt an ordinance requiring an operator of an electric bicycle to possess a government-issued photographic identification while operating the electric bicycle. A local government may provide training on the safe operation of electric bicycles and compliance with the traffic laws of this state that apply to electric bicycles.



E-Bike Categories:

- “Class 1 electric bicycle” means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- “Class 2 electric bicycle” means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the electric bicycle and that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- “Class 3 electric bicycle” means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.



Do You Need a License to Ride an E-Bike in Florida?

- No! In Florida, you do not need a driver's license, registration, or insurance to ride an electric bike, even on public roadways.
- E-bikes are legally classified as bicycles (not motor vehicles) and, they are treated the same as traditional bicycles under Florida law.
- So long as they fit the definition!

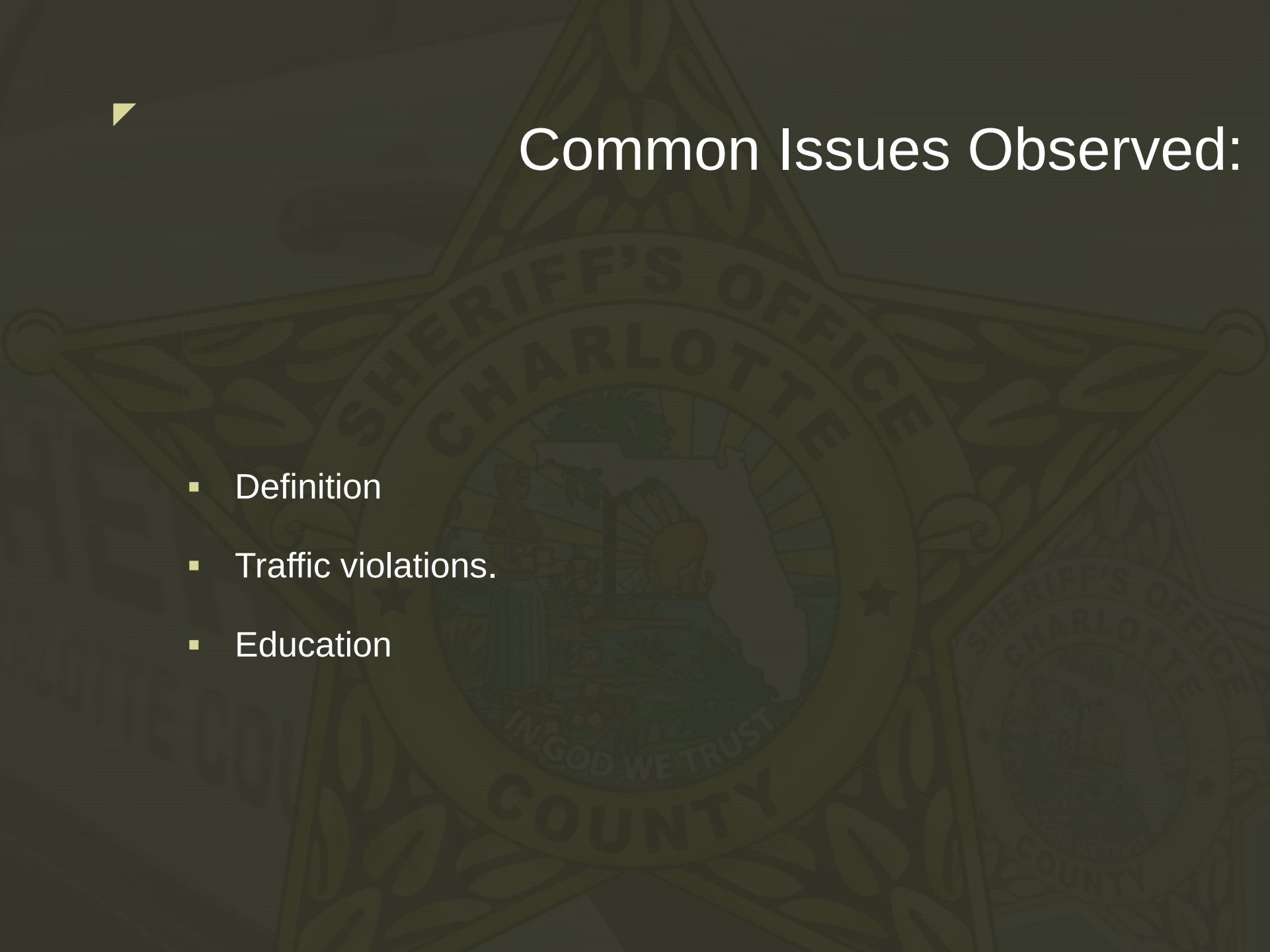
Where can you ride E-Bikes?

- On Streets & Roads – You can ride your e-bike on public roads, just like a traditional bicycle. However, you must follow all standard traffic laws, including stop signs, signals, and yielding to pedestrians. No E-Bike can travel faster than 28mph, thus defining them as a motor vehicle and subject to license, registration and insurance.
- On Bike Lanes & Multi-Use Paths – Most bike lanes and shared-use paths allow e-bikes, making them great for commuting and recreational rides.
- On Sidewalks – Florida law and Charlotte County allows bicycles (including e-bikes) on sidewalks; however, they have the rights and duties of pedestrians.

E-Bike Continued:

- Charlotte County does not have any general use differences between E-Bike categories countywide.
- However, there are area of the county that prohibit the use of E-Bike where standard bicycles area allowed. Like, the Pioneer Trail in Englewood.
- Ord. No 2022-017





Common Issues Observed:

- Definition
- Traffic violations.
- Education

What Does The Future Hold?

- As e-bike popularity grows, Florida's laws may evolve. Charlotte County is continuously updating their regulations to ensuring safety for everyone on the road.
- Due to technological advances in E-Bike, some cities and counties are now prohibiting their use on public roads.
- Stay informed by checking Charlotte County Ordinances and following updates from the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office.

MICROMOBILITY DEVICES

OLD:

- Any motorized transportation device made available for private use by reservation through an online application, website, or software for point-to-point trips and which is not capable of traveling at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour on level ground. This term includes motorized scooters and bicycles as defined in this chapter.

NEW:

- A motorized transportation device designed for individual use which is typically 20 to 36 inches in width and 50 pounds or less in weight and which operates at a speed of typically less than 15 miles per hour but no more than 28 miles per hour. This term includes both a human powered and a nonhuman-powered device such as a bicycle, electric bicycle, motorized scooter, or any other device that is owned by an individual or part of a shared fleet.

Thank you!

Questions /
Comments?

